here. We call upon him to lead us. We call upon every one of the representatives of this House to take up this challenge and come out in protest.

Messrs. P. Govinda Menon,
V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan,
Puthur Achutha Menon,
M. I. Paul,
M. K. Raja,
P. Sankara Menon,

Messrs. P. K. Paul,
C. S. Panicker,
P. T. Jacob,
G. S. Dhara Singh,
P. Mani, and
P. V. Sebastian,

walked out of the House.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):* I promised to give an information during the question time in the first Legislative Session of 1121. I am placing that information before the House.

Condolence Motion

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* "This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow on the sad demise of Mr. K. T. Mathew, B.A., B.L., who was an elected Deputy President of this House".

Mr. President, Sir, it is my unfortunate lot today to discharge the painful duty of giving expression to the deep sense of grief, felt by this House on the sad and untimely demise of Mr. K. T. Mathew.

Mr. Mathew was a member of this House returned in the first general election in Cochin State from the Kunnamkulam General Constituency. In all the first four councils he continued to represent the Kunnamkulam General Constituency in this House. Thus for more than one and a quarters of a decade he had the privilege to be a Member of this Council. To his credit it may be noted that he was returned un-opposed to this House from the Kunnamkulam General Constituency for the fourth Council, some of the Hon'ble Members here to-day who were his collegues in this House had occasion to come to know of him and his work in the Council more closely and intimately.

Courage and conviction were the dominent characteristics of his work and career in this council. Fear or favour had not influenced him, even once, to change his view on any question at issue in this House. Communal interest also did not taint his political career. He always championed the cause of the weak and the oppressed. Like a tower of strength, he always stood up on the floor of this House to fight for the low paid servants of our Government service. In those early days of tenancy legislation, he fought valiantly to ameliorate the condition of the poor tenants of Cochin. Prohibition, primary compulsory education, extension of franchise were some of his pet schemes and aims of his political activities. These and other traits and characteristics which are the pre-eminent requisites of a good politician were early recognised in him by all the people in Cochin. This recognition by the then Members of this House, was signally manifested by electing him as the speaker of this House in the third Council. I believe—I speak subject to correction—when this House was given the privilege to elect a Deputy President Mr. Mathew was the first to be elected to adorn that honoured Chair.

Mr. Mathew hails from an ancient syrian Christian family of Kunnamkulam. After his educational career, he took to politics early in his life. Even during his student life he was an active worker in many students' movements. As secretary to many such organisations he has successfully steared those movements through thick and thin.

After his student life he soon became a fullfleded politician, in whose hands the public cause was always safe and secure. From very early in his political life, he was able to win the confidence of all the people irrespective of caste or creed. He had rendered disinterested service to the cause of the tenants movements in Cochin State and he was one of the poineers in the field, to root out the evil of drink and alcohol from the soil of Cochin State. He was the founder and editor of "Kudyanpathrika" the first newspaper in Cochin State, of its kind to voice forth the cause of the tenants of Cochin. His political activities were not confined to the limits of Cochin State. He was Secretary to the "Native State Subjects Federation" and his work in that capacity also was met with alround appreciation.

In the midst of hi varied and manifold political activities, he was able to find time and energy to do social work also, to give relief to the blind and the deaf. He started a blind school in the year 1110 and a school for the deaf in the year 1113. This is the only institution of its kind in Cochin to make the miserable life, of less fortunate brethren of ours, happier and brighter,

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within the limits of human power and sympathy. The dumb, deaf and blind are taught up to lower secondary classes in that institution. With an idea that the institution may be useful to more of such unfortunate children it was shifted to Trichur. And for the sake of this institution he left his native village of Kunnamkulam and shifted permanently to "ചൂരക്കാട്ടുകര" (Choora-kattukara) at Trichur. And there in the service of the deaf, dumb and the blind he lived and died. He was a member of the Committee of "All India Blind Association".

Early in Vrischigam 1120 he had an attack of rheumatism, and high blood pressure which soon affected his heart. But nobody thought that this was the beginning of his end. As the ways of God are inscrutable and mysterious he breathed his last in the early age of 48 on the night of the 4th Meenam 1121.

Nobody who visited him in his sick bed thought, that his end was so near. In his last days he had a good word to everybody who went near his bed. He infused courage and confidence in them to fight the battle of life.

By his demise I lose a cousin brother of mine and a distinguished citizen of Kunnamkulam. To me it is a personal loss and to the people of Cochin an irreparable loss of an able and courageous politician and a disinterested social worker and a friend of the poor and the low.

May his soul rest in peace.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Industry and Commerce):* Mr. President, Sir, I rise to associate myself with the sense of grief on the sad demise of Mr. Mathew. He was one of the very first elected members of this House and he was successively elected as the member for Kunnamkulam for a number of years. Mr. Mathew had the good fortune of entering the political area at a very early age.

His work as a member of this House brought him a name and fame. He was no doubt a luminous star in the political firmament of the State. He was a dynamic force capable to lift our people from the morass of inaction. His broad grasp of fundamental principles, his unswerving loyalty to the cause of democracy and liberty and his unflinching devotion to duty made him the envy of all. While in the Council he fought hard with all the zeal and energy he could command for the political, economic, social and cultural advancement of the State and its people. Introduction of full responsible government, establishment of the Staff Selection Board, introduction of total Prohibition, free compulsory primary education, throwing open of all public high ways to all castes were some of his pet themes. His though grasp of details, his searching enquiries and his studied speeches made the Budget Session of the Council a most hardy annual so far as the Treasury Bench was concerned. His interpellations covered a wide range of subjects and his Supplementaries, with a peculiarity of his own, stand unsurpassed in the annals of the Council. Indeed he was worthy of the great trust reposed in him and the fact that he was the first elected Deputy President of this House is an unmistakable proof to show with what regard and esteem he was held by his colleagues.

Besides his political work he also devoted his attention to another useful channel. There was no provision in the State for the education of the Blind, the Deaf and the Dumb. He founded an institution for this. There were many difficulties in the initial stages to run this institution; but by his untiring skill and enduring perseverence he struggled against them all and at last succeeded in establishing it on a sound basis. The school was first started in Kunnamkulam then transferred to Ernakulam but finally shifted to Chelakottukara near Trichur where in his last days he was able to provide a permanent home for this very useful institution. However great may be the services of Mr. Mathew to the State as a politician, however brightly might the pages of the Council Proceedings redound to the lasting glory of Mr. Mathew as a parliamentarian, in my humble opinion, Sir, this institute which he has started and founded for the edification of these destitute children will be by far the most majestic memorial to the noble and self-sacrificing service he has done to the State.

It is a pity that soon after his transfer to Chelakottukara he fell ill by being a victim to Rheumatism. During his last days, though he was ailing, he was cheerful and prepared for the inevitable. At last death laid its icy hand on him and snatched him away from the midst of his nearest and dearest. No doubt he has left us a great example of pure political life and self-sacrificing service to our fellow beings.

May his soul rest in ETERNAL PEACE.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, the late Mr. Mathew belonged to that brilliant gallaxy of legislators who were returned to this Council at the very first general elections in 1100. The late Mr. C. P. Achutha Menon, the late Dr. A. G. Menon, the late Mr. Rama Ayyar of Trippunittura, the late Mr. Padmanabha Menon of Cranganur and the late Mr. George Chakyamuri were members who were returned to this Council along with Mr. Mathew. Amongst living personalities the late Mr. Mathew had as his associates of the first Council outstanding personalities of Cochin like Dr. A. R. Menon, Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar, the recently retired Chief Justice Mr. C. A. Kunjunny Raja, and the doyen of the House Mr. Eachara Menon who is luckily with us today Messrs. A. Sankara Poduval and C. A. Ouseph of Trichur and Mr. Salem who is so well known to all. These brilliant sons of Cochin, I must say, along with a handful of others grouped themselves together and formed, within the Council of course, the Progressive Party of the first Council which earned a name for itself and established for this Council a high place amongst the legislative assemblies of the whole of India. My statement, Sir, will be amply borne out by the proceedings of the first Council, 100—103. I would exhort any new member of the Council to read those volumes in preference to any other volume and that will show, Sir, that even in the first Legislative Council, though beginners, they were the best. Mr. Mathew belonging to that brilliant gallaxy as I said before, had been the life of that party. It was the splendid exploits of that party particularly those of my departed friend, in those years, that drew me out from my humble place at Vadakkancheri into this unhappy world of politics.

Mr. Mathew had been very popular amongst his constituents of his home constituency of Kunnamkulam. At four consecutive general elections, he was returned to this Council, for the first three occasions after pitched battles with some of the outstanding personalities of the constituency with the result that by the time the general elections were announced for the fourth time, nobody dared to stand against him. That was the place that he, with his associates was able to earn for himself. He was popular Mr. President, not only amongst his constituents but also amongst his associates in this House as evidenced by that significant episode—I say significant—of his being elected by the House to occupy the very first Chair in this land, namely, that of the Deputy President of this House, occasioned by the untimely demise of our first elected Deputy President, the late Dr. A. G. Menon. It is also note-worthy, Sir, that when he was called to that high office Mr. Mathew's person was not here. He was absent in far off Ceylon. That shows the popularity that he had amongst his associates of this House.

The main field of his activity, although he was showing his capacity in every activity of this Council but I say, Sir, the main field of his activity was the cause of the kanom tenants of the State. He had in his days to fight pitched battles against veteran representative of jenmies, the recently retired Chief Justice Mr. Kunjunny Raja but my departed friend won in company, of course, with his other friends. In the field of the kudians' cause it is note-worthy, Sir, that it was the assiduous nature of the work of my departed friend that brought the lion of the Punjab, the late Lala Lajpat Rai from far off Punjab to preside over the Tenants' Conference in 1103 just on the eve of the second election, just here on the foreshore of Ernakulam, which is now the Irwin Park. Along with that conference was also held, Sir, another conference, presided over by the then simple R. K. Shanmukham Chetty of Coimbatore. He presided over the first States Peoples Conference here, wherein it was asserted that it is the birth right of the people of the State to demand responsible Government, full responsible Government and Mr. Mathew had his foremost part in it.

Yet another field of his activity in this Council had been, Sir, as stated by the Hon'ble Mover of this motion, Mr. Mathew's worthy successor, free compulsory primary education and allied subjects. It was he, Sir, just as the late lamented Gopala Krishna Gokhale did in the Central Legislative Assembly in the very early years, who introduced the Free Compulsory Primary Education Bill in this Council, but unfortunate, it is, that the same is not in our Statute Book as yet, though, ere long we may hope to have one of the pet schemes of late Mr. Mathew appearing in our Statute Book.

Yet another field, as stated already by my Hon'ble Friend, of my friend's activities was on behalf of the most miserable of human beings in creation. The school for the Deaf and the Dumb, started at Kunnamkulam but now working at Che'akottukara in Trichur is an outstanding example of his social services of the right type. This school has been recognised to be an efficient institution by the authorities in Cochin. It has also brought encomiums, unstinted encomiums, even from outside.

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Mr. Mathew had been to me, Sir, a personal friend who has been inspiring me on very many occasions. As a personal friend I feel the loss too severe. Just after the last meeting when I was leaving the State for a short while, I made a visit to my friend in his sick bed. Although he was not well then, he was not in any way so bad as to make one apprehend this sudden and sad event which took place while I was away in North India. It was therefore a shock to me, Sir, to be told on my return that my friend had passed away.

As a politician, I may say, Sir, the departed had been in the very first front rank. He was a very great parliamentarian as will be seen from the proceedings that are on the Secretary's table. In the social field as I have already stated my departed friend had varied activities of his. His Parliamentary career in this House to a very great extent has been responsible for earning for the Cochin Legislative Council the high place that it has amongst the Legislative Assemblies of India as often remarked by persons competent to make a pronouncement on such matters.

He did not stand for election for the fifth Council the predecessor of the present for which he had announced his candidature. But a stroke of paralysis disabled the departed from filing the nomination paper. If he had not been so stricken we would have witnessed to-day a more virile and popular ministry run by him. But providence willed otherwise.

It is the loss of such a gentleman, a parliamentarian and a social worker, that we be moon to-day. Our last duty to him is only to pray that his soul may rest in peace.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Sir, I associate myself with all the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. I had the privilege to know Mr. Mathew long as a friend and a colleague in the Council, and as a colleague in a Party which parted ways with the veteran Progressives referred to by my friend Mr. Ezhuthassan, Mr. Mathew was a very usful, conscientious and energetic and industrious member of the Council and a public worker.

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Sir, I endorse all the kind sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers in this behalf. Mr. Mathew was a keen debator and a fearless critic, and several of us who were with him in this House remember very clearly the active and energetic part which he took in several of the controversial measures that came before the House during those days. In the midst of his official duties, personal and public, he also found time to devote considerable attention to the development of that small institution for the deaf and the dumb. His was a life of great use to the public. May his soul rest in peace.

Mr. K. Kochukuttan *(Nominated):* Sir, I also support this resolution and associate with all the sentiments that have been expressed by the other Hon'ble Members. May his soul rest in peace?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കെ. കുട്ടൻ : സർ, ആത്മാർത്ഥമായി പൊതുസേവനം നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള മഹാന്മാരുടെ അകാലമരണവിയോഗം രാജ്യത്തിനു വലിയൊരു നഷ്ടംതന്നെയാണു്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ളവരിൽ ഒരു പ്രഥമസ്ഥാനം മിസ്റ്റർ മാത്യുവിനുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ അകാലമായ വിയോഗത്തിൽ മറ്റുള്ളവരോടൊപ്പം ഞാനും വ്യസനം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. President: Before putting this motion to the vote of the House, I should like to add a few words. Although I dit not know Mr. Mathew as a Member of this House. I met him on more than one occasion in connection with his schools for the blind and the deaf and dumb, and I saw enough of him to know the loss the State has suffered in his death. I would like to associate myself with the sentiments expressed about him.

Motion put and carried

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* I request that this resolution may be communicated to the bereaved family

Motion put and carried

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—*(coni.)*

44. "30—A—Civil Engineering—Communication original"

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 12,500 under "30-A-Civil Engineering-communication Original". This expenditure

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